(xv) Stability in governance—(A) No seat for a party having obtained less than five per cent of toial valid votes even if it wins any seat at an election—a new definition of political party in the Tenth Sechedule which includes a pre-election front/coalition—restriction on no-confidence motion, in particular requiring the motion to be accompanied by another motion expressing confidence in a named individual as also no fresh no-confidence motion to be permitted within a period of two years.

(B) Passing references to one election in five years and fixed term for legislative bodies but no final recommendations made.

Amendment to Laws relating to contempt of Judges

†726. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Attorney-General of India has asked for making amendment to laws relating to the contempt of judges; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) The learned Attorney General for India has made personal suggestions that the defence of truth of the allegations made should be available in a contempt action as in the case of a libel action and that if the allegations made are found to be bassless or frivolous, stiff penalties of fine and imprisonment may be imposed upon the person making these allegations.

(b) It has been decided not to amend the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, for the present.

Law Commission's Recommendation for Debarring Independents from Contesting Elections

727. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be plesed to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended debarring

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Independents from contesting elections and to terminate the nomination of Anglo-Indian members;

(b) if so, whether Government have seriously examined the recommendations of the Law Commission;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government has not yet finally formed its conclusions on these issues.

Legislation of Code of Conduct for Judges

728. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward any legislation on the Code of Conduct for Judges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) One of the items of the National Agenda for Governance of the National Democratic Alliance is to set up a National Judicial Commission which would *inter alia* draw up a code of ethics for the judiciary. The proposal would require Parliamentary legislation. It is, however, not possible to indicate the time by which a decision in this regard would be taken.

Setting up of a Committee to examine Cases of Insolvency and Restructuring of Companies

729. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to set up a Committee headed by Supreme Court Judge to examine cases of insolvency and restructuring of companies;